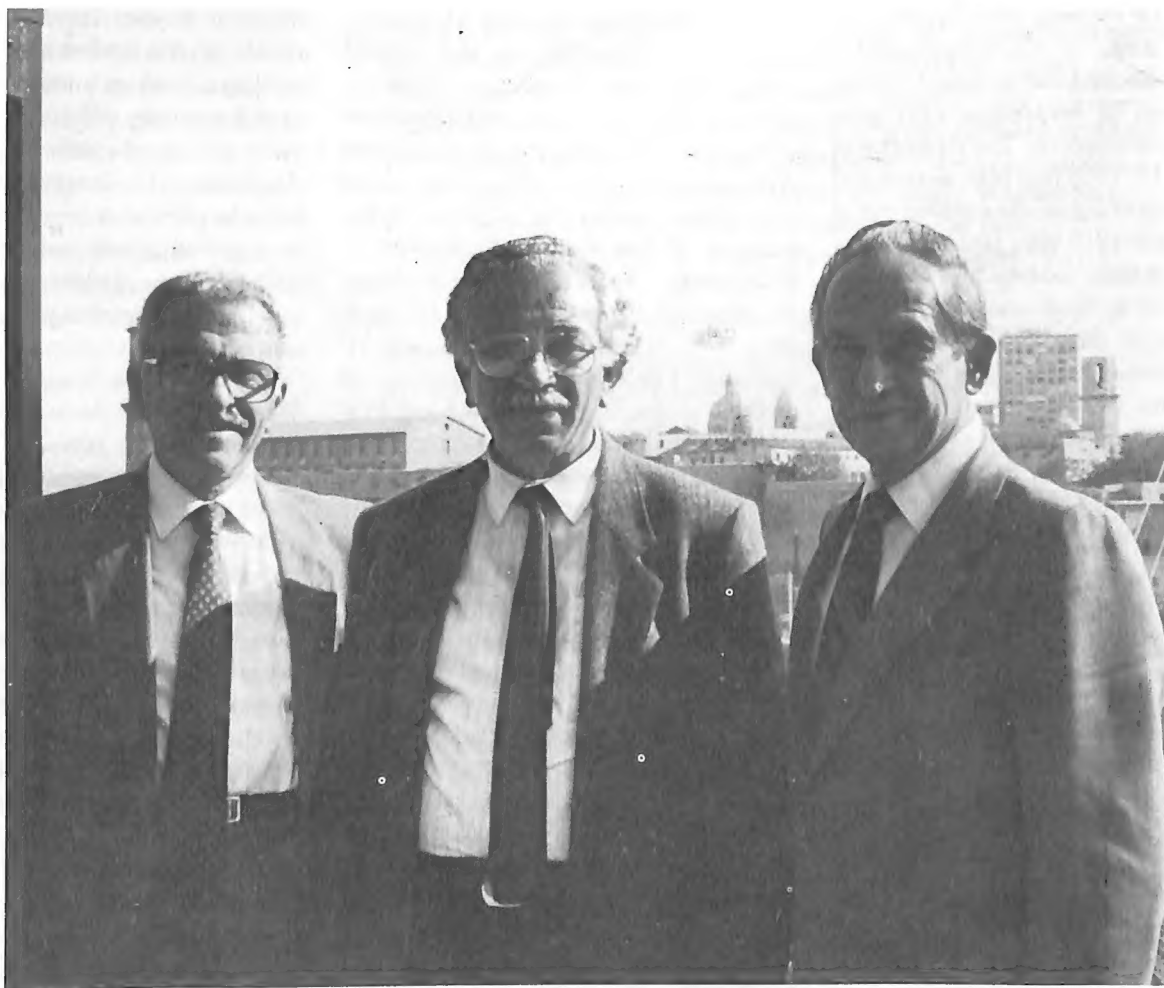


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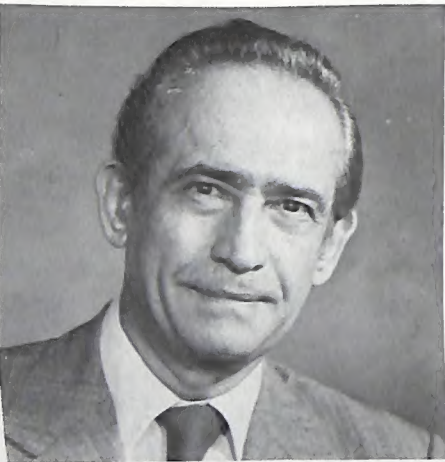
G.H. Chopourian
M.B. Janbazian



During their recent trip to France, AMAA President, Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, and Executive Director, Dr. G. H. Chopourian, also had the opportunity to visit with the former Director of our Armenian Evangelical Istanbul Youth Home, Mr. Hrant Guzelian, who is shown in this picture flanked by Mr. Daghljan and Dr. Chopourian.

ON WITH OUR MISSION

—G. H. Chopourian



G. H. Chopourian

It was a providential decision and a timely plan to salvage the broken hearts of our suffering people. The mere mention of the name "Armenian Missionary Association of America" was instrumental in arousing in the "returnees" hope, confidence, courage and the will to live.

Others came to share the vision and to extend it. Mission means an outreach, a reaching out, an extending of the hand to lift up, to heal, to comfort, to help build. There is something in the word mission, particularly energized by the command of Christ "to go into the uttermost parts of the world and preach the Gospel," that stimulates committed Christians to become more committed to the Kingdom of God. From the very beginning, therefore, when appeals were made to the membership in the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the United States, and the Armenian public in general, surprising generous responses were made to enable the newly-formed Association to come alive. God raised fine leaders too for the occasion in the persons of the Reverends Mihran T. Kalaidjian, Antranig A. Bedikian, Manasseh G. Papazian, Yervant H. Hadidian, Ph. D., N. Bekian, Puzant H. Kalfayan, Edward S. Tovmassian — all pastors — to lead their beloved Missionary Association into prominence as executive secretaries. Until 1946, most of them were unpaid volunteers. A full time paid executive secretary was employed twenty-eight years after the establishment of the Association in 1918. The records also show that a layman in the person of Steven Mardigian served as acting executive secretary in 1968. Added to those providentially placed leaders were mission-oriented lay persons, male and female, who served on church Mission Committees, AMAA Chapters and on the California District Committee. Their combined efforts put the Armenian Missionary Association of America on a strong foundation so that with their unparalleled passion for mission, AMAA became a nationally recognized household word.

The organizers found it not too difficult to formulate the purposes of the Association: "To promote the general interest and agencies of evangelical churches in Armenia and adjacent states in the Near East; to carry on religious, literary, philanthropic and other work, with special reference to the establishing and aiding of Armenian Evangelical Churches; to acquire in any and all lawful ways, including by bequest and devise, both personal and real property as may from time to time come into its possession; and to do each and everything necessary or incident with the laws of this State, and principles of evangelical Christianity."

tion created new areas of opportunity and added practical services extending from relief of all kinds to health care services, Christian literature, overseas pension programs, home mission projects, educational endeavors, church construction and support for weaker churches.

Today, the AMAA people are extending their reach to a degree unparalleled in the Association's history. Every step they take, every new extension of the Association's work is based on a clear vision, first, of the current needs and what the Association will be in the twenty-first century and, second, on a continued dedication to the fundamental Christian values which have served the Association and the public so well, so long. Those fundamental values include a total commitment to the Kingdom of God, the needs of the unfortunate and underprivileged and an uncompromising concern for quality of service to those who have entrusted assets or estates to the Association. The fundamental values also include pervasive respect for men and women who respond to calls for assistance and a restless pursuit of the best in service, reliability, credibility and competence.

Together, the above formula is the fabric of the Armenian Missionary Association of America. The values define our purpose, our heritage and the focus of our vision. In the tangible sense, vision and goals are the result of how the people of a charitable institution see themselves and their future. The focus comes from past leaders who have properly evaluated the capabilities and their dreams hold us to correct courses even as changes are introduced. In March of 1986, the AMAA/AEUNA Joint Home Mission Committee was formed to focus and concentrate upon projects at home in the U.S. and Canada that are in operation currently and others that might be commenced pursuant to concrete evaluation and mutual agreement by the Boards of the two organizations. We have committed over \$200,000 for the Home Mission projects and we are certain, as these projects become well known and their effectiveness proven,

larger sums will be forthcoming.

In its size and diversity, the Armenian Missionary Association of America, with its book value of about \$17 million and market value of perhaps \$25 million, is certainly the second largest charitable organization in the world among Armenians. It is also among the most highly regarded, with a reputation for quality, service reliability, credibility and dreams unsurpassed in such organizations. But more importantly, the Armenian Missionary Association is the only and unique mission organization ever in the Armenian world; it is the first and only. Unique, because of its major emphasis on evangelism, the preaching of the Good News of salvation in Christ. The one and only, because Armenian historical records do not provide any parallel organization. Conclusion: The AMAA is needed for the spiritual well-being of our people.

It has been said that morality trails behind scientific and technological progress. Much that has happened in the scientific and technological world in the last fifty years demonstrate the truth of that statement. We are now capable of destroying life on this planet "Earth" on which we are pilgrims. Just one day before this writing, an accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant in Russia is alleged to have caused the death of 2,000 persons. It is conceivable that we can blow ourselves out of this planet with an atomic war. Comparatively speaking, not much change has occurred in the last fifty years in the conduct of human beings and in human nature itself.

Our Armenian people need the challenge to improve themselves in human conduct, morality, spirituality. Yes, the Armenian Missionary Association is needed to challenge our people to keep pace in their religious and spiritual pilgrimage with the advancement of science and technology.

To that end, the Armenian Missionary Association shall stand. It is our prayer that it may so stand, forever, supported by all of our Armenian Evangelical Churches in North America and hopefully by those of the Middle East and France.

AMAA values are in place, and the Association's vision is clear. Are the committed membership ready and willing to fulfill the ideal? "Where there is no vision," Proverbs 29:18a states, "the people perish." Are the committed members,

whether they be teachers, preachers, lawyers, doctors, businessmen, workers, male and female, ready to uphold the Armenian Missionary Association of America to continue to be a citadel of hope, trust and love?

On this One Hundredth and Fortieth Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement, it is most appropriate to renew our commitment to evangelism and mission.

The Inspirational Corner

THROUGH THE SKY ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

Pastel tinged Aurora glistens before the ball breaks brim again.
While circles whirl, cycles go. Genesis surges forth, daily!
Morning glows upon a fruited plain between shining seas.
Old Glory's fabric blossom blooms. Unfurled, hoisted high,
a starred, striped sheet strapped to a pole flaps in the breeze.
Bloodied, bandaged, a banner betrays battles endured to fly over free Soil.
Split but resewn, its constellation shines liberated, but bruised.
The stained flag is saluted. Cloth carries clout!

The same spirit is sealed. Our bald bird, an eagle, clutches weapons,
wears a banded shield, but wields branches and grapes of peace and
bites ribbon which reads: **E PLURIBUS UNUM**—
One out of many; mosaic as the motto's model.
Our bald bird teems, though grounded in green wooded reserves;
trees pulped to paper and emblazoned with our eagle emblem;
minted cash to swap, stack, tax, spend and stash; **wampum!**
The embossed eagles' aviaries are closed today to honor
Secession from an empire: a step forward for freedom.

Noon blazes over the breadbasket of free and brave. Today,
Roast the pattied fatted calf! Feast! Feed a gathered crowd!
Bloated bellies resound! — Hollow echoes twinge. Hunger
Rumbles, roars low amid a sated chorus in a land of plenty.
Clad in regal lavender and cadmium attire, an evening ball ebbs.

Moon looms aloft as the ball shines submerged. Land is lit at night.
Jaundice incandescence glares, clings to ground; a lame gloss.
Congregations watch sky suck in smoke, sparks and fire. They retire.
Streamers flicker free, roam streets with paper cups and sheets of scripture.
Complacent citizens sleep soundly; a bum and bag lady sift trash.
Moon pulls sea from both sides. Oceans pound, sandwich Union shores
but brilliance resurrects. Dawn soon strafes the east. Routines resume.
A process perpetuates. The ball seems to roll.

Luna and Sol alternate global reign. Miniscule militants combat for face.
The boys' new toys split primary peas and can erase every earthly race.
Regimes of right or wrong play. Like moon and ball, they rise to fall.
Banner and bird represent respectable words: Men are created equal, free
to speak, meet and pursue happiness. Written rights tout justice for all!
Circles spin as cycles go. Learn from our mistakes and forgive us our faults.

Franklin Lakes, NJ
1986



MARK JANJIGIAN

4/11-88

AMAA PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT ON VISIT WITH THE UNION OF FRANCE

—By Nazar Y. Daghlion and G. H. Chopourian

In pursuance of the instruction of the Board of Directors of the AMAA, on May 8, 1986, we traveled to Europe for a 9-day-long visit with our mission partners, colleagues and friends in France, Germany and Belgium. The visit, prompted by an invitation from our brethren in France, had four purposes: (1) To attend the Synodical Annual Meeting of the Armenian Evangelical Union of France; (2) to represent the Association at the dedication services of the Fellowship Hall of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Lyon in France; (3) to explore the possibilities for mission work in the Dusseldorf and Cologne areas in Germany; and (4) to visit with AMAA friends and prospective supporters in Brussels, Belgium, and other cities. Our itinerary spanned over a period of 9 days, extending to Geneva, Switzerland; Lyon, Paris, and Marseille in France; Dusseldorf and Cologne in Germany; and included various formal functions, visits with churches, conferences with local leaders and pastors and contacts with individuals and AMAA friends.

We arrived in Lyon about lunchtime on May 9, and attended meetings of the Union which were held in the newly renovated sanctuary of the local Armenian Evangelical church. In 1984, the AMAA had responded to an appeal and pledged to provide along with the Stephen Philibosian Foundation, 300,000 francs of the 600,000 francs the renovation of the sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall of the Lyon church would have cost.

There were about 30 representatives from 14 Armenian Evangelical churches attending the conference. The Synodical sessions started on Thursday, a day before our arrival, and were held throughout Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10. On Sunday, a worship service was held beginning 10:15 a.m., at which time the Executive Director preached the Armenian sermon relating the words of the blind man in John 9 who was healed ("One thing I know, that, whereas I was blind now I see"), to the 140th An-



Congregation and friends at the Consecration Service of the Lyon Church.

niversary of the founding of the Armenian Evangelical Movement on July 1, 1846. Following the service, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held with the AMAA President doing the honors, followed by a very sumptuous meal and a time of fellowship.

The Synodical meetings dealt with concrete existential issues and problems that faced the ministers. These included discussions on marriage, baptism, membership and the like. Throughout, there was a very healthy conservative approach. Interspersed in the daily programs were reports from the various departments of the Union. The youth reported on their publication entitled, *The Lumignon* and on the Summer Camp Programs held at two places — La Fontanelle and La Source at Thollon.

The Armenian Evangelical Union of France is the most centralized of the three Armenian Evangelical Unions in the world. We learned that each pastor is provided with a parsonage, a car and Social Security paid to the state authorities. The church pays all the expenses for the car and the house and the same salary of 5,000 francs a month is paid to each minister in cash for use by the minister and his family. Every ten years, a minister is removed from one church and placed in another where he occupies the church parsonage.

Most of the churches are very small in membership. As a result, the Union has found it possible to have the 14 churches led by a total of six young pastors.

The church buildings, outside of one or two, are modest and so are the parsonages.

One of the most productive activities of the Union is their camp arrangement. We visited La Fontanelle on Tuesday, May 13. It was a six-hour round trip to the mountain camp which comprises of four buildings and extensive high mountainous grounds. The program at this camp takes care of young children, youth and adults, and work is by volunteer service. We got the impression that there was a lot of loving service rendered gratis which spells out the reason for the success of the program. We learned that it is not money alone that does great work, but commitment and caring and sharing.

We have in our French Union a solid Christian approach to Christian living, fellowship and generosity for the Union is also involved in mission. The Union is ready to participate in the mission work of the AMAA; currently they provide for a couple of evangelists in Turkey and in March they promoted the AMAA.

The Reverend Jean-Daniel Sahagian, the second of the two more senior pastors out of the six, was transferred three years ago from the Issy-les-Moulineaux Church



The AMAA President and Executive Director at a lunch conference at the home of the Treasurer of the AEU of France (center), its Moderator and pastor of the Lyon Church.

in the suburbs of Paris to Beaumont, a suburb of Marseille. He is the pastor of the Beaumont Church which has a small church building and no social hall. As a result, the social and fellowship life of the church membership is stunted. Daniel applied to the AMAA for financial assistance towards the construction of a social hall on the parsonage campus wherein there is sufficient space for a good-sized social hall. He suggested AMAA undertake fifty percent of the anticipated \$200,000 cost. The AMAA Board, being previously aware of Daniel's request, had determined we observe the situation and report on our return.

In Brussels, we visited Mr. John Abajian and found in him a concerned Armenian and a fine gentleman. He came to the airport to pick us up, took us to his offices, showed us his factory where diamonds are cut and polished and returned us to the airport after offering us lunch at the Diamond Club in the restricted area in Antwerp. We spoke to Mr. Abajian about the work of the AMAA and presented to him the program opportunities we have for him to participate in. Abajian indicated that he has plans to set up a foundation for his family, but nonetheless, he promised to give some

thought to our proposals. We pray that God may touch his heart and inspire him to yoke his talents and capacities to the work of the AMAA.

In Germany, we were met at the airport by the Reverend Hagop Djambazian at Dusseldorf and driven in his car to Cologne in the company of two youth, Hagop and Mardiros. In Cologne, we visited the home of Hagop where we were introduced to his wife, his mother and family. Hagop witnessed to salvation in Christ and Mardiros reported he had repented after studying the challenges of different religions and finding Christ the answer to his needs and life. Our discussions centered around the subject of possibilities of mission work in the Dusseldorf and Cologne areas. We agreed with the Rev. Djambazian that he will develop a plan for an evangelism outreach and submit it for the consideration of the AMAA Board.

We took flight from Cologne for Paris, arriving in Paris past 10 p.m. The Reverend Rene Leonian, Pastor of the Issy-les-Moulineaux church, picked us up and delivered us to the hotel. We were able to retire past midnight, having wakened up on the morning of May 14 at 4:45 a.m. The following morning at 11



The Armenian Evangelical Church of Lyon, towards the renovation/construction of which the AMAA and SPF contributed \$42,000.00.

o'clock, we met with Miss Dora Manoukian for lunch. Miss Manoukian is a cousin of Miss Leila Karagheusian, a gracious friend of the AMAA. We hope to reveal to Miss Karagheusian our fellowship with her.

We found everything very expensive in France and wondered how on earth people with perhaps less salary income than Americans earn could possibly survive in an expensive climate like that. For instance, a decent tie was listed at \$45, making it impossible for us to even think of bringing gifts to friends in the United States. We believe we can buy a good tie in the United States for about \$15. Recommendation: Stick to the United States for your vacations!

We departed Paris via a Swiss Air flight and returned to New York on the same day in the evening. We thank God for our safe return, but above all, we praise Him for the meaningful trip which became a joyful occasion to celebrate and confirm our partnership in mission with our brethren in France. We pray that as a result of this visit, the scope and effectiveness of our mission will be further enhanced in that region.

A PILLAR OF OUR EVANGELICAL WORLD HAS FALLEN

The tragic news of a cardiac arrest, brain damage and death within eleven days following the arrest kept us evangelicals in suspense. The Reverend Edward S. Tovmassian's family, parishioners, colleagues and friends prayed for his recovery, but God's plans prevailed and he entered his rest on April 28, 1986.

On May 1, a private family graveside service was held for him pursuant to his wishes. This was followed by a memorial service on Sunday, May 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the United Armenian Congregational Church (UACC) in which church he had served for seven years as Associate Pastor. Fellow ministers and friends eulogized the Rev. Tovmassian and those in attendance were deeply moved. Participants included: Rev. Abraham Chaparian, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Hollywood; Mrs. Louise Chookoorian, Organist of the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church of Downey; Rev. Dr. G. H. Chopourian, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America; Rev. Berj Djambazian, Pastor of United Armenian Congregational Church of Hollywood; Mr. Luther Eskijian, Personal friend of Rev. Edward Tovmassian; Rev. Dr. Krikor Haleblan, Pastor of the Armenian Church of the Nazarene of Montebello; Father Sipan Mekhsian, Assistant to the Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church; Rev. Norair Melidonian, Pastor of the Cilician Armenian Congregational Church of Pasadena; Rev. G. Diran Minassian, Pastor and personal friend of Rev. Edward Tovmassian; Rev. Roger Minassian, Pastor of the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church of Fresno; Rev. Harry Missirlian, Minister to the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America; Mr. Nap Mushegan, Deacon of IACC; Mr. Arthur Tookoyan, Soloist; Rev. Ronald D. Tovmassian, Pastor of the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown, MA, and son of Rev. Edward Tovmassian; and Mr. Charles Zoolalian, personal friend of Rev. Tovmassian.

In 1972, the UACC Herald wrote of his ministry to that church: "The seven years that Rev. Tovmassian has given us have been bountiful and productive. . . We will



The Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian

miss his smile and his friendly way which have been his hallmark. . . This church is deeply in his debt and expresses its gratitude."

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF THE REVEREND EDWARD S. TOVMASSIAN

Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian was born on March 10, 1912 in Aleppo, Syria. His parents were Rev. Stepan and Helen Tovmassian. At the age of fourteen, he accepted Christ as his Saviour and soon after that he felt the call to full-time Christian Ministry.

In 1938, Edward graduated from the Near East School of Theology and spent the first eight years of his ministry serving in the Middle East. In 1946 he came to the United States and became the Pastor of the Armenian Congregational Church of Detroit. After staying in Detroit for thirteen years, he accepted a call to serve as the Executive Secretary of the AMAA in 1959, a position which he held for nine years. The four years from 1968-1972 were spent pastoring the Bethlehem United Church of Christ in Glassboro, New Jersey.

Immanuel, the publication of the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church which the Rev. Tovmassian served last of all, has these reflections on their pastor: "His was a compassionate ministry, with a real concern for members, church and their families. . . His calling to serve in the ministry was a serious one to him and he devoted over 40 years of his working life to the Armenian Evangelical Movement. Indeed, he once wrote, 'I do not intend to slow down or relent as long as the Lord gives me strength and good health.' Our brother died in the saddle."

The Rev. Tovmassian was a master at sermons. There was always "meat" for nurture and presented interestingly and palatably. He projected a friendly, kindly and fatherly figure; he transmitted compassion, care and keen interest; he calmed down "stormy" scenes; he behaved in a universal way, his outreach being to all the children of God.

The AMAA President, Mr. Nazar Y. Daghljan, sent this message to the Memorial service liturgist: "I have known the Rev. Tovmassian since 1957—my first year in the AMAA as a Board member. Later on, I had the privilege of working

In 1972, having received a call from the United Armenian Congregational Church in Hollywood, Edward moved his family to Los Angeles. After seven years as the Associate Pastor of that church, he accepted a call from the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church in Downey. Since August 1, 1979 he has served as the Pastor of the Immanuel Church.

On April 28, 1986, Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian entered his eternal rest after 48 years of dedicated service to his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He is survived by his loving and faithful wife Arousiag; his children Harry, Doreen, Edward and Ronald; his sisters Efronia Mouradian, Amelia Najarian and Clara Aintablian; and his eight grandchildren Tiffany, Troy, Michael, Jeffrey, Melissa, Elizabeth, Amy and Jeremy.

with him when he became the Executive Secretary. During all these years, whether in New York or in Glassboro or in California, I have known him as a humble, honest, calm and caring person. I have never heard a harsh word from him, nor seen a fit of anger. His fatherly and brotherly attitude epitomized the true characteristics of a genuine and sincere Christian."

The Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian gave us a legacy of love and an example of faith to live by. He was a true witness to each of us of the love of Christ in this world and our hope in Christ for a world yet to come. We are all better persons because we were touched by Edward in some way or another, by his genuine, warm, kindly, friendly and sincere personality.



The late Rev. Edward S. Tovmassian addressing the guests at the AMAA 57th Annual Meeting Banquet at which time he was Honored by the Board of Directors and the missionary family of the AMAA. We now feel that it was providential for the AMAA to recognize the Rev. Tovmassian's services to the Association and the Immanuel Church on his retirement.

THE EJDAHARIAN FAMILY TURN THEIR TRAGEDY INTO VICTORY



Armine Ejdaharian-Bilezikjian.

In our daily rounds as executive workers of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), we come across unique experiences which inspire, instruct, and humble us. One of these was our visit with Mother Elise Ashjian Ejdaharian, and her daughter Ardemis, a practicing nurse employed by St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, CA.

Mrs. Ejdaharian, a young ninety, is a library of information on Armenian Evangelical life. Her uncle, the Rev. H. H. Ashjian, was the able pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Adana.

She was married to Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian of Arabkir who had received his medical training at the French University of Beirut. Raised by an uncle when left as an orphan at three, Dr. Ejdaharian's story is a tribute to his determination to be a useful person. After positions and practice in Damascus, Duertyol, the Turkish Army, as captain (become prisoner of war under the British Army in Cairo), Beirut, Alexandretta and Gaza, he finally settled with his family in Tripoli, Lebanon where he entered his eternal rest in 1967. He left a beautiful heritage: he was loved by his friends, patients and colleagues for his humility, readiness to help, generosity, knowledge and dedication. An intelligent, yet gentle person. Elise and Meguerditch were blessed with three daughters and a son.

As if the tragedy of the death of the father was not enough, daughter Armine began a long bout with cancer. Finally succumbing to it on June 5, 1985. Said her mother of her: "My beloved, you had a loving and caring spirit and were the sweet-smelling rose of our home. God considered you to be worthy for Himself; blessed be His name."

Armine Ejdaharian married Steve Bilezikjian, a businessman, in 1964. She

was born in Beirut, Lebanon, on March 25, 1927, as the third of four children, the others being Araxie, Haik and Ardemis the youngest of the four. Armine grew up in Beirut and Alexandretta, attended an Armenian School and also College des Soeurs Armenien Catholique de L'Immaculee Conception, and was taken with the family to Gaza (then Palestine) where her father joined the staff of Sterling Memorial Hospital. During the troubles of 1948-49, Armine joined as volunteer the nursing staff of the hospital with her sister Ardemis, graduating from the four-year Nursing School to become Head Nurse of the Out-Patient Department. She then became Assistant Nursing Supervisor and Assistant Nursing Instructor. She followed the Post-graduate course for Operating Room at the American University of Beirut. Due to the unrest in the Middle East, Armine and her sister, whose professions and temperaments had coincided well, applied and were accepted by St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, California, where they settled after a stint of travel together in Europe and Eastern United States.

Armine was an excellent homemaker, a superb cook and loved entertaining.



Dr. Meguerditch Ejdaharian and Mrs. Elise Ejdaharian, surviving wife.

She did everything with zest and prepared everything well. Cake decorating, oil painting, ceramics, knitting, crochet, embroidery, needlework and sewing are evidences of her great talents. Other personal involvements were tennis, basketball, and choir and loved classical music, the opera and ballet which she enjoyed with her husband Steve who played the violin with the Burbank Symphony Orchestra. Beginning with her arrival in 1961, Armine held the position of Staff Nurse in the Operating Room at

St. Joseph Medical Center and from 1975 on for ten years she was in charge of the Urology Department. She was an excellent nurse, dedicated, efficient, quick, friendly, cheerful and always ready to help. She was highly respected by the doctors and nurses for those qualities and, admired for her use of five languages which came handy for the needs of patients who did not speak English. She was the "translator" par excellence.

Mother Elise stated: "Armine expressed the wish that the money she had saved be established as a Fund with the AMAA and the annual income used for male and female medical students in need, or students following health professions, towards their school tuition." Happy over her daughter's decision, Mrs. Ejdaharian exclaimed, "My beloved, in your death you will become a living soul."

The Ejdaharians provided seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to create the Armine Ejdaharian Bilezikjian Memorial Fund and in this way, turned their sorrow into triumph. Said the family to the prospective scholarship recipients: "We would like to become acquainted with you. Dr. Ejdaharian's daughter, Armine

Ejdaharian Bilezikjian, at a young age, wished to become a nurse to be able to help the sick and the needy. She achieved her goal but, even though in excellent health, contracted cancer unexpectedly. Her other wish was to establish a scholarship fund for students in need entering medicine or health services. If you become a recipient, we want to congratulate you and to request a favor of you: "when you become able financially, become morally and financially helpful to others, we'll be glad to hear from you."

Armine was put to rest at the Forest Lawn Mortuary of Hollywood Hills after a touching service on June 8, 1985, at the Old North church with the Reverends B. Djambazian and E. S. Tovmassian officiating. Pursuant to Armine's wish, Mozart's Requiem Mass was played and a palmful of soil from historic St. Etchmiadzin and Keghart in Armenia was sprinkled upon the casquet.

Armine is survived by her husband Steve; mother Elise; sisters Ardemis Ejdaharian and Araxie Karamanoukian and family; brother Haik Ejdaharian and family (Beirut); and nephews and nieces.

THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TELFEYAN EVANGELICAL FUND

May 29, 1986, marked the 70th anniversary of the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Inc. (TEF). Incorporated in the state of New York, on May 29, 1916, the TEF has been functioning effectively as one of the oldest Philanthropic family foundations in the Armenian community of North America.

Philanthropic works were in the very mainstream of the family for many generations. Garabed Telfeyan, father of the founders of the Fund, was born in 1835. He learned to read and write by translating the Bible from ancient Armenian to modern Armenian. He was greatly influenced by the missionaries. Garabed Telfeyan started attending Protestant services and was deeply moved and impressed by the religious approach.

The missionaries had started schools and colleges throughout Turkey, but there were no colleges in Kayseri. Young men interested in pursuing their education had to leave Kayseri for college level studies. Garabed Telfeyan made a promise that someday there would be a college in Kayseri. He set aside funds for this purpose. This was, perhaps, the first documented tangible philanthropic endeavor of the Telfeyan family.

The present Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Inc. was brought to fruition as specified in the will of Sarkis G. Telfeyan "to promote the cause of evangelical Christianity, benevolence and Christian education." Signatories on the incorporation papers were John G. Telfeyan, Herant G. Telfeyan, Albert G. Telfeyan, Agavny S. Telfeyan (widow of Sarkis G. Telfeyan) and Judge Harry V. Osborne of New Jersey. Judge Osborne was a family friend and served as a member of the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund until his death in 1948.

TEF grew financially with large gifts from John G. Telfeyan during his lifetime and with a sizeable bequest in his will. Over the years, funds contributed by other funders as well as second generation members of the family further enhanced the financial capacity of TEF.

Although the incorporators of TEF were of Evangelical persuasion, the



Dr. Sarkis A. Telfeyan, President, TEF.

disbursements have always demonstrated a genuine concern for the welfare of all Armenians in the United States and Overseas. Through the years, financial assistance has been given to Evangelical, Apostolic and Catholic churches and institutions as well as to needy individuals and students regardless of their denominational affiliation. Realizing the commonalities in the purposes of TEF and the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), the officers of the Fund have specially related to the AMAA with a genuine sense of fellowship and have made annual budgetary provisions to such AMAA programs as Theological Training, Social Service, Child Education, Scholarships, Ministers' Supplementary Pension, Haigazian College and Relief Projects.

At present, the 18-member Board of Directors of TEF are tapped from the second, third and fourth generation descendants of the enlightened founders of the Fund. The most recently elected members included Leslie Ayvazian of New York, NY, and Jennifer Lynn Nora Telfeyan of Garden City, NY. Leslie is a great granddaughter of Asanet Telfeyan Bashian, a sister of the founders, and a granddaughter of Mrs. Mary Bedikian and the late Rev. Antranik A. Bedikian. Rev. Bedikian served the Fund for decades as Vice President and the contact for Armenians who needed aid.



Mrs. Elida Nerso Telfeyan, Executive Vice-President, TEF.

Jennifer is the great granddaughter of John Telfeyan, one of the founders of TEF. John Telfeyan was a pillar of the Armenian Community at the time of the Charter of the Fund in 1916. He was the driving force in the formation of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, and one of the incorporators and the first President of the AMAA.

The current officers of TEF are: Sarkis A. Telfeyan, M.D., President; Gary J. R. Telfeyan, M.S., Vice President; Ronald B. Alexander, Esq., Treasurer; Elida Nerso Telfeyan, Executive Vice-President; and Pauline Telfeyan Miccio, Secretary.

The commitment of these devoted men and women show that the tradition of caring continues with the same intensity as that of the founders of TEF. In the words of Mrs. Elida Nerso Telfeyan, "the time and interest given by the members of the Fund is rewarded by the knowledge that the outreach of TEF continues to make life more promising for the less privileged in the Armenian Communities in America and Overseas."

The Officers, Board of Directors and the Executives of the AMAA join in praising God for the vision of the founders and for the dedication and committed stewardship of the current Board members of TEF. We pray that under the Board's devoted leadership, the Fund will further grow in its outreach to Armenians for many generations.

A Great Opportunity to Visit The Land of Our Ancestors

THE AMAA IS ORGANIZING AND SPONSORING ITS SECOND TOUR OF ARMENIA

SEPTEMBER 3-18, 1986

Take this opportunity of a lifetime! Visit Etchmiadzin; the Martyrs' Memorial of Dzidzernagapert; the Historical Museum, Art Gallery and Madenataran of Yerevan; Lake Sevan; Khor Virab; Dilijan; the Armenian Evangelical Baptist Church of Yerevan. Experience the sights and sounds of historic and modern Armenia.

You will also visit Lenigrad, Moscow and Gdansk.

Tour cost includes expenses for air and land travels, first class hotels, three meals daily, theater tickets and sightseeing in all cities visited.

The all inclusive tour cost is \$1,850 per person based on double occupancy. Private single rooms are available at a supplementary charge of \$215.00.

For reservation and/or information on tour itinerary write or call:

**Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652
Telephone: (201) 265-2607, 265-2608**



HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES & MANAGERS HOLD JOINT MEETING IN LOS ANGELES

A joint meeting of the Haigazian College Board of Trustees and Managers was held on April 4 and 5, 1986, in Los Angeles, CA, for the purpose of reviewing the current status and future role of Haigazian College as the only degree giving Armenian Institution of higher studies in the Middle East. Those attending the meeting included: AMAA President, Mr. Nazar Daghljan; Executive Director, Dr. G. H. Chopourian; the Administrative Dean of the College, Miss Wilma Tcholakian; the Chairman of the Board of Managers, Mr. Hrayr Mouradian; and



The entrance and the main building of the Haigazian College East Branch.



A few of the participants in the joint Haigazian College Trustees/Managers meeting of April 4 and 5 held at the Burbank Hilton in Burbank, CA. L. to r., first row: Mrs. Joyce Stein and Miss Wilma Tcholakian. Second row: Dr. Rendel Levonian, Mr. Nazar Daghljan, Mr. Hrayr Mouradian, Dr. G. H. Chopourian, Mr. Edward Janjigian, Mrs. Mary Diran, Mr. Arthur Mehagian and Mr. Sam Mardian.

officers and members of the Los Angeles-based Board of Trustees. Miss Tcholakian and Mr. Mouradian provided a comprehensive report on the College, emphasizing the fact that despite the continuing civil war in Lebanon, the resolve of the leadership and the mission of the 30-year old institution remain unchanged.

The ongoing strife in the country has certainly affected the College. The Armenian population of West Beirut has decreased substantially, thus causing a dramatic decline in the enrollment of Armenian students at the College. The East Branch of the College, however, is steadily growing. Of the 150 students enrolled at the East Branch, all but four are Armenian. The Bethany-Mesjian School building, which is being used as the campus of the new Branch, offers limited space and facilities for the rapidly

growing student body. In anticipation of increased enrollment in the Fall, the Board of Managers is studying the possibilities of enlarging the school building as well as occupying the nearby facilities of the Christian Medical Center which is currently occupied by the Christian Phalengist forces. Miss Tcholakian is continuing to serve as the competent and courageous Administrative Dean of the College, since it has not been possible to appoint a President so far.

In response to a request from the Board of Managers, the joint meeting resolved and subsequently recommended to the AMAA Board that the name of the College be modified to "Haigazian University College" to differentiate it from the French word "College" which means high school.

At a meeting held at the Immanuel Armenian Congregational Church in

Downey, Calif., on April 6, 1986 the AMAA Board of Directors considered the main items issuing from the joint meeting and resolved: "(1) to accept the report of the Haigazian College Board of Trustees with thanks and with special commendation to its Chairman, Dr. Rendel Levonian, and the Board membership for the excellent job they have done during this most difficult period in the history of the College; (2) to thank the Board of Managers (in Beirut) in writing for their dedication and service to the College under very stressful and trying conditions; (3) to thank Wilma Tcholakian, in writing, for her untiring and heroic services to the College as its Administrative Dean in these dangerous and chaotic times; (4) to approve the budget of \$150,000 for 1986-87 and the change of the name of the College to 'Haigazian University College.'"

NEW BOOKS PUBLISHED BY ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL MINISTERS IN FRANCE

Two important books were recently published by two of our active Armenian Evangelical Pastors in France: **Le Mouvement Evangelique Armenien**, by the Rev. Jean Daniel Sahagian, and **Les Armeniens de France Sont-ils Assimiles?** by the Rev. Rene Leonian.



The Rev. Jean-Daniel Sahagian

The Rev. Sahagian's book, released on the occasion of the 140th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement, is an objective and informative overview of the origins, history, witness and the current status of the Armenian Evangelical Church. The book is in paperback format; contains 158 pages; and includes illustrations, a bibliography and a list of the names and addresses of the Armenian Evangelical Unions worldwide as well as those of the Churches in France.

The Rev. Leonian's work represents a case study of the situation of the Armenian Communities in the Diaspora. The book raises such questions as, "Who are the Armenians in France? Why have they come to that country? Are they French or not? Will they be integrated or assimilated?" The Rev. Leonian answers these and similar crucial questions honestly, courageously and with intellectual integrity. The book contains 206 pages and provides a useful chart (including the addresses) of the Armenian political, social, cultural, religious and educational organizations and institutions in France.

By virtue of their own particular train-



The Rev. Rene Leonian

ing and life experiences, the Rev. Sahagian and the Rev. Leonian are among the best qualified persons to treat the theme of their respective works. We highly recommend their books which can certainly be new and valuable additions to the collection of our French-speaking members and friends in America. Both books are available through the AMAA Book Service Program at \$10, plus \$1 for postage and handling per copy.

LUCINA AGBABIAN HUBBARD LECTURES ON SACRED MUSIC AND EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Noted soprano Lucina Agbabian Hubbard of Los Angeles, CA, was the speaker for a lecture entitled "Traditional Armenian Sacred Music and its Relationship to the Armenian Evangelical Church" hosted by the Armenian Heritage Committee of the United Armenian Congregational Church on April 13, 1986. Mrs. Hubbard accented her lecture through musical examples, vocal solos and instrumental as well as choral renditions featuring the UACC Chancel Choir. The topic of Mrs. Hubbard's lecture represented a timely theme for the occasion of the 140th anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement which is being observed this year by Armenian Evangelicals throughout the world.

Mrs. Hubbard, who was one of two featured soloists at AMAA's 60th Anniversary Celebrations in 1978, received her training and degree in music at UCLA. She later studied in Europe, doing extensive research in Vienna at the Mekhitarist

Library. Most recently, her travels took her to Armenia where she studied at the Gomidas Conservatory of Music in Yerevan, emphasizing her particular area of interest, viz. the history of Armenian sacred music in the Middle Ages.

THE REV. BERDJ DJAMBAZIAN ADDRESSES INTERNATIONAL CRUSADE IN GERMANY



The Rev. Berdj Djambazian

The Rev. Berdj Djambazian, Pastor of the United Armenian Congregational Church in Hollywood, CA, participated in the program of an important international crusade held on April 24-27, 1986 in Germany. The crusade, which was organized by the Janz Evangelistic Team, a worldwide organization of evangelism and outreach, took place in the German town of Dorfweil, near Frankfurt. Rev. Djambazian led various workshops and presented a number of lectures during the 4-day crusade which was also attended by pastors, evangelists and Christian workers from different parts of Canada, South America and Europe. "It was an unforgettable and blessed crusade, when we all experienced the power and the leading of the Holy Spirit," said Rev. Djambazian, who is preparing to lead a series of evangelistic meetings in the Armenian Communities of Hollywood, Glendale and Pasadena, CA. These upcoming meetings, organized by the Armenian Evangelical Churches of Greater Los Angeles, will be held from July 17-29, 1986.

We thank God for the opportunities offered to our brother Berdj to preach the Gospel, and pray that the Lord will continue to use him mightily in spreading the wonderful message of Christ's saving Grace.

AMAA'S 1978 ELLIS ISLAND REMEMBERED EVENT TO BE RECOGNIZED BY LIBERTY CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

On the occasion of the Liberty Centennial Campaign, the AMAA had appealed to the steering committee of the National Park Service and the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Foundation to extend a visible recognition of AMAA's Ellis Island Remembered Event of 1978. AMAA's request was made along with a pledge of \$50,000 towards the Centennial Campaign as the Association's participation in the nationwide effort to save the Statue of Liberty. The funds pledged by the Association represent the \$32,000 amount contributed by individuals and families to the Ellis Island Remembered festivities, plus the interest accrued on this amount since 1978. Mr. Charles P. Clapper, the Associate Regional Director of Planning and Resources Preservation of the Foundation, recently revealed that AMAA's request has been granted and that the 1978 Ellis Island Remembered celebration will be recognized in an appropriate manner. The recognition will include:

1. Permanent listing of the AMAA on the major donor walls at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The AMAA's Ellis Island Remembered event will be permanently inscribed in large print with other campaign contributors.
 2. Inclusion of the AMAA in the listing of all the campaign's official publications. These include the commemorative program, brochures, television, magazine and newspaper ads, such as, full page ads in USA TODAY and the Wall Street Journal.
 3. Inclusion of AMAA's name in the National Archives. The AMAA will be included on a list that will be forwarded to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to be permanently stored there.
 4. The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation will send to each contributor to our Ellis Island Remembered event a personalized Certificate of Appreciation.
- The "Ellis Island Remembered" event



The Ellis Island Remembered Commemorative paintings of: Salpi Mavian, K. Katchaz, S. Samsonian and Marcel Apkarian (clockwise).

was organized and sponsored by the AMAA on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary celebration. The event commemorated the drama of freedom-seeking Armenian immigrants who passed through the Island before they began their new life in the United States. It was the first such event by a minority group to celebrate the historical significance of the Island and call attention to the importance of restoring, beautifying and preserving the buildings on the Island which represent a noteworthy landmark in the history of the many ethnic communities of America.

We are glad that basic restoration of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty is being done. Is it possible that AMAA's 1978 event influenced or facilitated partly the decision for restoration?

Five artists contributed paintings on the occasion of "Ellis Island Remembered."

Four of the artists donated their paintings to the AMAA which are on display at the AMAA Headquarters. We considered it appropriate to feature those four paintings in the June issue of the NEWS.

We ask the artists, Salpi Mavian, K. Katchaz, Simon Samsonian, Marcel Apkarian to excuse us for reproducing their art work in beautiful color, in black.

We owe them a deep gratitude and heartfelt thanks.

CALVIN SAGHERIAN APPOINTED ASSISTANT PASTOR OF PILGRIM CHURCH

Calvin Sagherian, an AMAA-supported seminary student who graduated from Talbot Theological school in June, 1985 was recently called to become the Assistant Pastor of the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational church of Fresno, CA. According to the Rev. Roger Minassian, pastor of the Pilgrim Church, Calvin will assume his new position in mid-August, 1986. His main duties will involve working with the high school, college and young peoples' groups.

Calvin, who is currently serving as a Youth Director at the Lake Avenue Congregational Church in Pasadena, CA, hopes to be ordained by the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference and the AEUNA. He also plans to marry Miss Janine Raymond of Pasadena, CA, daughter of a minister, prior to his ministry with the Pilgrim Church.

The AMAA rejoices at the happy decision of both the Pilgrim church and Calvin and extends to them hearty congratulations on their mutual commitment.

NEW YORK CHURCH LAUNCHES SOCIAL DAY PROGRAM

The Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, NY, recently started a "Social Day" for adults. The program, which also includes lunch service, was organized as a social outreach activity to provide a time of fellowship in an informal and leisurely setting to the adult members and friends of the congregation. The "Social Day" activities are supervised by the Rev. Daniel Albarian, pastor of the church, and are held on the third Wednesday of each month.

LUCY JANJIGIAN PARTICIPATES IN LIBERTY EXHIBITIONS



Lucy Janjigian

Lucy Janjigian exhibited her paintings at the Liberty Exhibition organized as part of the Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebrations. The exhibition was held at the Mussavi Art Center in New York City, from May 1st through May 17th.

Lucy, who has exhibited her art throughout the Northeastern United States, has received numerous awards for her work. In addition to the many private collections which house her paintings both in the United States and abroad, her works are on public display in various galleries and institutions around the world such as the Mekhitarist Museum, Vienna, Austria; the American Cyanamid World Headquarters, Wayne, N.J.; Berliner Handels Frankfurter Bank and Arab Bank Limited, New York City; the AMAA, Paramus, N.J. and the Gallery Philip, Toronto, Canada. Furthermore,

she has two murals at St. Leon's Armenian Church, Fair Lawn, N.J. Lucy is currently at work on a commissioned painting for the 140th anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement to be celebrated by the Armenian Evangelical Churches in North America in June 1986.

As a member of Composers, Authors and Artists of America Inc., Lucy is taking part in a juried group exhibition at the Gregg Galleries of the National Arts Club, New York City, 21st St. between Park Ave. S. & Lexington Ave. The exhibition will be open to the public from June 17-22, 1986.

KIZIRIANS CELEBRATE 45TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Jacob and Virginia Kizirian of Fresno, long-standing supporters of AMAA's ministry, were honored recently at a surprise dinner party marking their 45th wedding anniversary. The party was organized and hosted by their sons, Donald and his wife Donna; Norman and wife Pamela; and Leonard and his wife, Vickie. Close to 200 friends and relatives attended the anniversary celebration which was also shared by President Ronald and Nancy Reagan and Governor George and Mrs. Gloria Deukmejian who had sent special congratulatory telegrams to Mr. and Mrs. Kizirian.



Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Kizirian

Warm congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Kizirian and may God bless them with many more years of happy and fulfilling life together.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Story of One Armenian

Dear Editor:
I AM too, an Armenian. The name needs an explanation perhaps, but my given name is (and I still often use it among intimate friends) Garabed Roupén Abrahamian of ISMID. . .

In the several books I have written, I have descriptions of the plight of the Armenians not quite as lucky as my family was. I have taken the liberty of enclosing several pages from one of the books. . .

In writing to you . . . I wanted to give you the story of ONE Armenian, product of initial wealth, the subsequent, abject poverty, the struggle to survive. . . the ARMENIAN. . . given a chance in a wonderful country as I have found AMERICA. . . and finally, the satisfaction and pride which I have in the realization that there is movement, there is effort, as AMAA, as the Armenian remains in the forefront, with its culture, its vitality among the civilized nations equal to any in quality and purpose to survive.

GARO WILLARD RAY
(Garabed Roupén Abrahamian)
Orange, CT

The Armenian Catholic Church

Dear Editor:
In the February 1986, Vol. XX, NO. 1 issue, I noticed with much surprise the absence of the Armenian Catholic Church at the rank of the other Middle Eastern Catholic Churches. Needless to mention that the Armenian Catholic Church is known in the entire world. I can name the following five Patriarchs just during my life time: the late Avedis-Peter XIV Arpiarian; the late Iknadios-Peter XVI Batanian; now retired Hemayag-Peter XVII Ghedikian; and since August 5, 1982, to be exact, John-Peter XVIII Kasbarian.

ZORA BEZIRGUENIAN KARIAN
Paterson, NJ

Editor's Note: We had not mentioned the names of the Roman Catholic Churches in the Middle East. That is why the absence of the name of the Armenian Catholic Church from our Chart.



FRESNO CHURCHES MARK THE 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT

The Pilgrim Armenian Congregation church (PACC) and the First Armenian Presbyterian church (FAPC) of Fresno, CA, celebrated the 140th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Movement at a joint worship service on Pentecost Sunday, May 18, 1986. The service was held in the sanctuary of the Pilgrim church and was attended by more than 700 people, including Armenian Evangelical families living in communities around Fresno. The Rev. Dr. Hagop Chakmakjian, former pastor of PACC, led the service and the Rev. Bernard Guekguezian, pastor of FAPC, gave the Armenian message on the theme, "The Spirit of our Sister Unions Overseas." The Rev. Roger Minasian, pastor of the host church, and the Rev. Harry Missirlian, Minister to the Union, spoke in English and shared meditations on the timely theme, "The AEUNA Today and Tomorrow." Other participants in the service included: the Rev. David Hammelmann, Assistant Pastor of FAPC; Joan Hensleit, Christian Education Director of PACC; and Steve Nersessian. Special music was provided by the combined choirs of PACC and FAPC under the direction of Alice Isaacs.

The First Armenian Evangelical Church was organized in Gedik Pasha (Istanbul) on July 1, 1846. Armenian Evangelicals throughout the world observe this date to celebrate the 19th century reformation movement which gave birth to their independent church. It is anticipated that, this year, the Armenian Evangelical Churches and communities throughout the world will observe their 140th anniversary with special festivities and public functions. The Armenian Evangelical Churches in the United States and Canada will celebrate the important milestone in conjunction with their Biennial Assembly to be held on June 25-29, at William Patterson College in Wayne, NJ.

MOMJIAN TWINS GRADUATE FROM LAW SCHOOL

Carol Momjian and Mark Momjian, children of our Solicitor and his wife



Carol and Mark Momjian

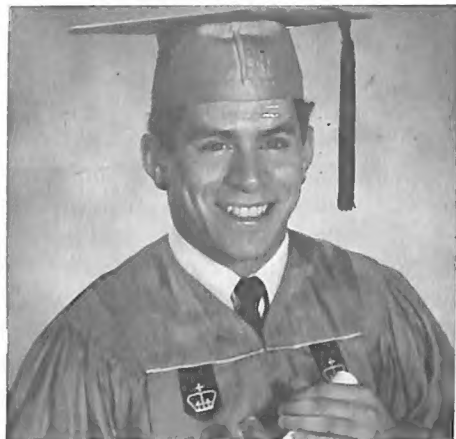
Esther, received their Juris Doctorus degrees in May, 1986. Ms. Momjian graduated from Delaware Law School and received her BA degree from Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Mr. Momjian graduated from Columbia Law School and received his BA degree from Columbia College, New York City. Both intend to practice law in Philadelphia.

The parents of the twins are Albert and Esther Momjian of Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania. Their grandparents are the late Hagop and Arousiag Gostigian and the late Garabed and Johar Momjian.

Hearty congratulations and best wishes to each for a successful career and fulfilling life.

STEVE BEZIRGANIAN HIGHLIGHTS THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE IN VALEDICTORY ADDRESS AT COLUMBIA

Steve Bezirgianian, son of Dr. and Mrs. George Bezirgianian of Middletown, N.Y., graduated, summa cum laude from Col-



Steve Bezirgianian

umbia University in New York City on May 14, 1986, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. A Phi Beta Kappa member, Steve was the valedictorian of his graduating class. Speaking on the theme, "Freedom in America," he delivered an informative and moving address in defense of the Armenian case. He said, "In the United States, freedom is often taken for granted. Most of us are fortunate enough to be able to make our own choices about how we wish to incorporate our personal heritage into our lives. ...Millions of Armenians, including my own grandparents, were not so fortunate as most of us are. At the beginning of this century, the Ottoman Turkish government subjected its Armenian population to barbaric cruelties. Infinitely worse than this, however, was the Turkish government's systematic attempt to eradicate the Armenian people."

In a condemnatory remark to those who refuse to accept the historicity of the Armenian Genocide, Steve stated, "Even worse than being unaware of or indifferent to the persecution that many peoples suffer, however, are the attempts to deny the occurrence of such oppression. Even here, at Columbia, for example, there are a few professors who claim that no Armenian Genocide ever took place. Such creative rewriting of history is the first step toward tolerance of future oppression."

Warm congratulations to Steve on his graduation and his courageous defense of the Armenian case. With brilliant and devoted youth like Steve, we certainly can hope the best for the future of our nation.

Հայերէն բաժին

ՀԱՅ ԱՒԵՏԱՐԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԲԵՄԸ

Ծ. Խ. — Հետեւեալ գրութիւնը առնուած է Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիի բազմալատակ Հովհաննէսէն՝ հանգուցեալ Վեր. Դոկտ. Մ. Կ. Փափագեանի «Աւետարանական Բեմ» խորագիրը կրող մէկ ուղերձէն, տրուած՝ Կելիկիոյ Հայ Աւետարանական Միութեան 1900ի Համաժողովին: Կը հաւատանք, թէ մարգարէաշունչ այս գրութիւնը, մեր անցեալի սերունդէն գալով հանդերձ, Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիի 140ամեակին առթիւ, նոր ու ստիպողական պատգամ մը ունի մեզի՝ ներկայ սերունդի Հայ Աւետարանականներու համար:

Մեր անմիջական պարտքն է գալիք օրերուն վերաբերութեամբ ներկան ուսումնասիրել. եւ հարկը կը զգանք ազդարարել որ այսօրուան մեր հոգեւոր վիճակը առիթ կուտայ վաղուան համար մտահոգ ըլլալու: Ուրեմն, ի՞նչ գործնական միջոցներ ձեռք առնել կարելի է որպէս զի Աւետարանական բեմը իր կոչմանը համապատասխանող վիճակ մը ստանայ, եւ աւելի փառաւոր ապագայի մ'ալ նշոյլները երեւցնէ:

Ժողովուրդը պատասխանատու է իր հոգեւոր պաշտօնեային ընտրութեան, ի՞նչ տեսակ մէկն է որ Աստուծոյ կողմանէ իբր ղեկավար եւ մարգարէ պիտի աշխատի իրենց մէջ:

Ժողովուրդը պատասխանատու է անոր ապրուստին. «Ո՞վ զինուորութիւն կ'ընէ իր հացին վրայ խորհելով»: Ժողովուրդը չափանիշն է իր պաշտօնեայի որակին:

Ձեռնհաս ու Հոգեւոր Քարոզիչը. . . անիկա համոզւելու է թէ Աւետարանը Աստուծոյ զօրութիւնն է ի փրկութիւն հոգեւոր, թէ ամէն ճշմարիտ քարոզիչ աղգերը աշակերտելու համար առաքուած է, եւ թէ իր կոչումն է խօսքովը, աղօթքովը, կեանքովը Քրիստոսի բերել մարդիկը: «Վա՛յ է ինծի, եթէ Աւետարանը չքարոզեմ» աղաղակելու աստիճան բռնկելու է Քրիստոսի սիրովը: Ամէն բանէ աւելի հոգ տանիլ որ անիկա Սուրբ Հոգիէն նորոգուած մարդ ըլլայ, Քրիստոս՝ անոր մէջը ապրող եւ զինքը զօրացնող Փրկիչը ըլլայ, հոգեւոր բանքը անոր համար կեանք եւ ոյժ ըլլան: Ո՛հ, մեր քեմերուն մեծ ցաւը Քրիստոնէական փորձառութեան ծանծաղ ըլլալն է: Քարոզիչին մէջ հոգեւոր կեանքը—Հոգիին կեանքը—այնքան աւարտ է որ իր քարոզած բանը՝ բառ ու բանաձեւ է, հոգեւոր ոյժ է, կեանք է:

Մեր ողբալի պակասը պերճախօսութիւնը չէ, ներշնչութիւնն է: Պէտք ունինք քարոզիչներու, որոնք իրենց միտքը, սիրտը, լեզուն գերի ըրած են Տէր Յիսուսի, որոնց մէջ մի քարոզը Քրիստոսը կը ցուցնէ հոգիին աչքին եւ Անոր ոտքը կը բերէ կը նետէ մեղաւորը, որոնց մէջ կը հիանաս ոչ քարոզին, ոչ քարոզիչին, հապա միայն Փրկիչին: Ասիկա Հոգիին պերճախօսութիւնն է:

Քրիստոնէութեան առաջին դարուն մէջ Եկեղեցիին հսկայաբաշխ յառաջդիմութեան պատճառը սա էր որ անոր քարոզիչները Սուրբ Հոգիին այս օծումը ստացած մարդիկ էին: «Եւ եղաւ որ իկոնիոնի մէջ անոնք մէկտեղ

Հրեաներուն ժողովարանը մտան, եւ այնպէս խօսեցան որ խիստ շատ Հրեաներ եւ Յոյներ հաւատացին» (Գործ. ԺԴ. 1): Այնպէս խօսեցան որ. . . շատեր հաւատացին: Մենք ալ կը խօսինք ու շատ անգամ կը խօսինք, բայց շատեր չեն հաւատար, քիչեր իսկ չեն հաւատար: Արդեօք, ինչո՞ւ: Վասն զի թէեւ կը խօսինք, բայց «այնպէս» չենք խօսի: Մենք կը խօսինք, մեր «ես»-ը կը խօսի, հետեւաբար Քրիստոսը կը լռէ: Բայց թող քարոզիչը մի անգամ «քոնուի» Քրիստոս Յիսուսէ, այն ատեն Քրիստոս պիտի խօսի անոր մէջ եւ այնպէս պիտի խօսի որ շատեր պիտ հաւատան:

Մենք համոզուած ենք որ Աստուած ինքը կանգնած է Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին ու բեմը մեր մէջ, եւ անով ըսելիք— պատգամ — ունի մեր ժողովուրդներուն:

Աստուած կրնայ խօսիլ իր պատգամը՝ բայց մենք, Աւետարանի պաշտօնեաներս ու ժողովուրդը, մերկանանք անձին փառքը, մեր պսակները նետենք Աթոռին առջեւ եւ մատչինք համբուրել Տէր Յիսուսի ոտքերը:

Տէր, մեզ արթնցուր եւ Հոգւովդ նորոգէ, Ամէն սիրտ՝ երկնաւոր եռանդովդ վառէ, Ալելուիա, մեր Փրկիչը, Սրբէ մեզ նորէն, Ալելուիա, Քուկդ է Փառքը, Ալելուիա,

Ամէն:

ԱԶԳԻՆ ԱՂԵՐՍԸ

Հա՛յր մեր Աստուած մեր հարց՝ լոյսդ վառեցիր Մեր մէջ, ազգն դարբնով վրկայ ըրիր. Տեսանք չարաց անուր չարիքն զըրկանք, Արեան, դառն արցունքի ձորէ անցանք: Օրհնեա՛լ է կամփդ. մեր բիր բահատակներ Առիւ փառքիդ մէջ, եւ վերապրողներ իբր գաղթական՝ ազգաց մէջ ցըրուեցիր, իսկ մայր հողին վրայ՝ կայծ մը պահեցիր: Այսուհետեւ ձեռքդ՝ Տէ՛ր, հըզօր բարի Ամէն տեղ թող ըլլայ մեզ հովանի: Խաղաղութիւն տո՛ւր, մեզ հուժնու՛, պահէ՛ իբր ազգ համայն հարուած ու փորձանքէ: Մեր յուսահատ սիրտն ըսփոփէ՛, շնորհք տո՛ւր, իբր բարգաւառ ընտիր ազգ ապրեցո՛ւր Քու սուրբ խօսքդ միշտ քարոզելու նորէն Անուանդ փառքին համար, ո՛վ Տէր, Ամէ՛ն:

Ա. Ս. ՏԱՐԱԳՃԵԱՆ

ԹՂԹԱԿՑՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՅՈՒՆԱՍՏԱՆԷՆ

Սիրելի Վեր. Ժանպաղեան,

Ինչպէս ձեզի հաղորդած էինք նախապէս, ի պատասխան ձեր նամակին, Կիրակի մը նուիրելու Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան, ուրախութեամբ կը հաղորդենք թէ օգտուելով Վեր. Յակոբ Սաղըրեանի ներկայութենէն, որ յատկապէս եկած էր Յունաստանի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիներու Միութեան Վարչութեան հրաւերով եւ Մերձաւոր Արեւելքի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիներու Միութեան Կեդրոնական Մարմնի կարգադրութեամբ հինգ շաբաթներու համար ներկայ ըլլալու Զատիկուայ տօնական օրերու առթիւ կատարուելիք պաշտամունքները առաջնորդելու, Կիրակի 10 Մայիս 1986ի առաւօտեան ժամը 10:30ին պատշաճ շուքով, միացեալ պաշտամունքով, Աթէնքի եւ Գոթինիոյ եկեղեցիները Գոթինիոյ մեր եկեղեցիին մէջ նշեցին ամբողջ Հայութեան եկեղեցական ամենամեծ կազմակերպութեան, Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան Օրը:

Վեր. Սաղըրեան մանրամասն տեղեկութիւններ տուաւ Ընկերակցութեան Աւտուածահաճոյ եւ Հայրենասիրական ծառայութիւններուն մասին եկեղեցական, կրթական, բարեսիրական մարզերէ ներս:

Եկեղեցւոյ Երգչախումբը ղեկավարութեամբ Պրն. Զաւէն Թոքաթլեանի եւ երգեհոնի ընկերակցութեամբ փոքրիկն Գրիստին Թոքաթլեանի խոր ապրումով եւ ներշնչումով մասնակցեցաւ պաշտամունքին:

Կիրակի Օրուայ եկեղեցւոյ պնակին հասոյթը մեր աղօթքներուն հետ սիրով կը յատկացնենք որպէս խորհրդանշական նուէր՝ Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան:

Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը իր հիմնադրութենէն մինչեւ այսօր իր բազուկները երկարած եւ միրտը եւ հոգին տուած է Գրիստոսի թագաւորութեան ծաւալման: Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութիւնը սփոփած է համայն Հայութեան կոտտացող վէրքերը՝ հոգեւոր, մտաւոր եւ մարմնաւոր սնունդ հայթայթելով հազարաւոր մանուկներու, պատանիներու, երիտասարդներու եւ երէցներու: Եկեղեցիներ, դպրոցներ, երկրորդական վարժարաններ եւ գոյէճներ հիմնելով, աւետարանիչներ, առաջնորդներ եւ քարոզիչներ պատրաստելով, դեղ ու դարման հասցնելով, ամառնային ճամբարներ հաստատելով, հրատարակութիւններով, Հայրենադարձներու օգնելով եւ զանազան այլ կերպերով, Աւետարանչականը անգնահատելիօրէն մեծ օրհնութեան աղբիւր մը եղած է մեր ազգին:

Յունաստանի Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցիները եւ դպրոցները ըլլալով Աւետարանչականի նպաստը նկատելով, երախտագիտական անհուն զգացումներով կը խոնարհին Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան հիմնադիրներու յիշատակին առջեւ, եւ կը մաղթենք անոր իմաստուն, հեռատես եւ լայնախոհ ղեկավար մարմիններուն եւ առաջնորդներուն յարատեւ յաջողութիւններ եւ մեծամեծ նուաճումներ ի փառս Աստուծոյ Թագաւորութեան եւ ի բարօրութիւն մեր բազմաշարժար ժողովուրդին:

Յարգանք՝

ԱՍԱՏՈՒՐ ԹՈՓԱԼԵԱՆ, Ատենպետ
Գոթինիոյ Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիի

13 Մայիս 1986

ՔԱՐՈԶՉՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՏՈՒՉՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՊՐՆ. Ս. ԱՂԱԲԷԳԵԱՆԻ

Մերձաւոր Արեւելքի Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիներու յեղրոնական Մարմնի որոշումով, 15 Դեկտեմբեր 1985, կէսօրէ ետք ժամը 2:30-ին տեղի ունեցաւ Պրն. Սամուէլ Աղաբէգեանի քարոզչութեան արտօնութեան տուչութեան պաշտամունքը Քէօրքիւնէի Հայ Աւետ. Եկեղեցիին մէջ: Պաշտամունքին ներկայ էին Քէօրքիւնէի, Էքիզօլուքի, Քեսապի, Գալ ասուրանի եւ այլ շրջաններէն հաւատացեալ քոյրեր եւ եղբայրներ: Պաշտամունքը սկսաւ Պատ. Մհեր Խաչիկեանի առաջնորդութեամբ՝ հոգեւոր երգերով, աղօթքով եւ Ս. Գրքի ընթերցումով:

Վեր. Հաննա Սարմազեան, Կեդր. Մարմնի Սուրբոյ բաժնի ատենապետը, կարգաց տրուած որոշումը թէ թեկնածուին քարոզչութեան արտօնութիւն պիտի տրուի յետ հրապարակային քննութեան:

Վեր. Հ. Սարմազեան, Պատ. Մ. Խաչիկեան եւ Տոքթ. Ռուֆֆի Պալապանեան հարցուցին հարցումներ, եւ թեկնածուն պատշաճ պատասխաններ տուաւ: Ապա յանձնախումբը առանձնացաւ սերտելու հարցումներուն տրուած պատասխանները:

Յանձնախումբը, գոհացուցիչ գտնելով հարցումներուն պատասխանները, ներկաներուն յայտնեց իր դրական որոշումը:

Ապա Տոքթ. Պալապանեան կարգաց Սուրբոյ Համայնքապետ Վեր. Պարգեւ Աբարդեանի յատուկ նամակը, որուն մէջ ան կը յայտնէր իր խնդակցութիւնը եւ շնորհաւորութիւնները թեկնածուին եւ Քէօրքիւնէի ու Էքիզօլուքի եկեղեցիներուն:

Առիթ տրուեցաւ նաեւ Քեսապի Առաքելական Եկեղեցիի Տէր Հօր՝ Արամ Քիլիւնջեանին, որ իր խօսքերուն մէջ շեշտեց թէ պաշտօնի ստանձնումը աւելի պատասխանատուութիւն եւ նուիրում կը պահանջէ, եւ թէ եկեղեցին ալ իր կարգին պէտք է զօրավիճ կանգնի եւ գործակցի հովիւին հետ, որպէսզի միասնաբար կարենան հոգինք շահիլ Տէրոջ փառքին համար:

Պաշտամունքը վերջացաւ Պատ. Սամուէլ Աղաբէգեանի օրհնութեան աղօթքով:

Պաշտամունքէն ետք հիւրասիրութիւն տեղի ունեցաւ եկեղեցիի սրահին մէջ:

ՊՈՒԷՆՈՍ ԱՅՐԷՍԻ ՀԱՅ ԱԻԵՏ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻ 56ԱՄԵԱԿԸ

Պուէնոս Այրէսի Հայ Աւետարանական Ժողովական Եկեղեցին իր կազմութեան 56րդ տարեդարձը նշեց Աւետարանչական պաշտամունքներու յատուկ շարքով մը, 1985ի Դեկտեմբերին: Պաշտամունքներուն պատգամաբերներն էին եկեղեցիին հովիւը՝ Վեր. Յովսէփ Պալեան եւ հիւր աւետարանիչներ՝ Ռուբէն Գասպեան ու Վլատիմիր Գուրգէնիք: Տասնհինգ անձեր Յիսուսը որպէս Տէր ու Փրկիչ ընդունելով նուիրուեցան Անոր:

Աւետարանչական պաշտամունքներէն զատ տեղի ունեցան նաեւ Յոբելինական այլ գործունէութիւններ: Կիրակնօրեայ դպրոցին աշակերտները եւ ուսուցիչները կատարեցին աւետարանչական գնահատելի ձեռնարկ մը, երգեցողութեամբ ու վկայութեամբ աւետարանը քարոզելով Ֆլօրիտա պողոտային անցորդներուն: Երգչախումբին անդամները, Վեր. Պալեանի առաջնորդութեամբ, այցելեցին երեք հիւանդանոցներ ու ծերանոց մը, եւ Աստուծոյ խօսքին մխիթարութիւնը տարին բազմաթիւ հիւանդներու, ծերունիներու եւ տառապեալներու: Եկեղեցիին ժողովուրդը ունեցաւ երկու մենիկ օրեր եկեղեցիին պատկանող Monte Grande բանակատեղիին մէջ: Յոբելինական այս գործունէութիւնները հոգեւոր նորոգութեան եւ շինութեան առիթներ եղան եկեղեցիին համար: Աւետարանը քարոզուեցաւ, շատեր օրհնուեցան եւ Տէրը փառաւորուեցաւ:

ԱԻԵՏԱՐԱՆԸ ՓՐԿԵՑ ՀԱՅ ԶԻՆՒՈՐԻՆ

Իրանահայ Բարսեղեան ընտանիքի զաւակը՝ Արմանը ուրիշ շատերի նման մեկնեց ճակատ՝ մարտնչելու Իրաքի կողմից Իրանին պարտադրուած պատերազմում: Նա գտնուում էր Սոււմարի ճակատում, երբ տեղի ունեցաւ այդ դէպքը:

Արման Բարսեղեանին իր զինուորական չափիկ ձախ գրապանում միշտ ունենում էր մի Աւետարան եւ ազատ ըրալներին կարգում էր:

Պատերազմի ճակատում, մի ահեղ կռիւ ժամանակ, թշնամու կողմից արձակւած մի պայթուցիկ արկի է հանդիպում Արմանը: Արկի մահասփիւռ կտորները ցրում են ամէն կողմ: Կտորներից մէկը դիպչում է Արմանի ձախ կրծքին, ծակում է Աւետարանի հաստ լաթակազմ երեսը, պատուում անցնում է նրա վերջին 100 էջերից եւ մնում է նրաց յաջորդող 30 էջերի ճեղուածքի արանքում:

Պայթուցիկ արկի մէկ սանդիմետրանոց կտորը կարող էր անմիջապէս մտնել սրտի մէջ եւ պատճառ դառնալ Հայ զինուորի նահատակութեան: Աւետարանը, սակայն, փրկում է նրա կեանքը:

ԱԼԻԲ

ՇԱՐԱԿԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ ԵՒ ՀԱՅԵՐԷՆ ՀՈԳԵՒՈՐ ԵՐԳԵՐՈՒ ՆՈՐ ԶԱՅՆԵՐԻԶՆԵՐ

Ուրախ ենք յայտարարելու թէ մեր մօտ ունինք Շարականներու եւ Հայերէն Հոգւոր Երգերու բուրովին նոր ձայնագրութիւն մը չորս ձայներիգներու վրայ:

Ձայներիգներու այս անախընթաց շարքը պատրաստուած է 26 անդամներէ բաղկացած Երգչախումբի մը, 9 մեներգիչներու եւ 16 երաժիշտներու կողմէ, խմբավարութեամբ՝ Դուլտ. Ժան Մերճանեանի:

Չորս Ձայներիգներու գինն է 26 տոլար: Ստանալու համար դիմել Հայ Աւետ. Ընկերակցութեան գրասենեակը:

Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652
Հեռ. (201) 265-2607, 265-2608

ՍՏԱՑՈՒԱԾ ՆՈՐ ԳԻՐՔԵՐ

ՏԻՐՈՋ ՆՈՒԻՐՈՒԱԾ ԿԵԱՆՔ ՄԸ— Հեղինակ՝ Վեր. Ե. Ա. Թօրօ

156 էջերէ բաղկացած այս գիրքը ինքնակենսագրութիւնն է Տէրոջ մէկ ծառային որ երկար տարիներ ծառայած է Միջին Արեւելք Հայ-Ասորի Աւետարանական դաշտին մէջ: Ստանալու համար դիմել՝

Rev. Yuhanna Toro
1802 E. Beverly Drive
Pasadena, CA 91104

ՀՈԳԵԿԱՆ ՅՈՅԶԵՐ Բ. Հատոր— Հեղինակ՝ Վեր. Նշան Կ. Խաչատուրեան

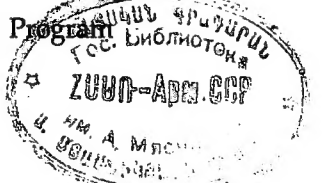
Հոգեշունչ յօդուածներու եւ ազգային անխառն զգացումներով հեղինակուած գրութիւններու հաւաքածոյ մըն է 372 էջերէ կազմուած այս հատորը, որ Վեր. Խաչատուրեան իբր կտակ մը կը ձգէ իր բազմաշարժար ազգին զաւակներուն: Ստանալու համար դիմել՝

Rev. Nuchan Hachian
23250 17th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

ՀՐԱՇԱՊԱՏՈՒՄ— Հեղինակ՝ Միքայէլ Նարինեան

Տէր Զօրի Սպանդէն կենդանի աւագահատիկի մը հոգեւոր վկայութիւնը: 151 էջ, օրինակը 5 տոլար: Ստանալու համար դիմել՝

A.M.A.A. Book Service Program
140 Forest Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652



OBITUARIES

Sympathies extended: - The Board of Directors, the Executive Director, the Field Directors and the staff, all of whom are acquainted with the deceased, their families and relatives through the AMAA records, extend their sincere and deep sympathies to the immediate kin, relatives and friends of the deceased, whose obituaries, transmitted to the Editor by pastors, friends or relatives, are recorded below.

"Let not your heart be troubled," said our Lord, "ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions . . . I go to prepare a place for you. . . , I will come again, and receive you unto myself." (Jo. 14:1-3). This is the hope by which we should all live.

NVART JANBAZIAN



Mrs. Nvart Janbazian

Nvart Janbazian crossed the bar in San Clemente, CA, on February 26, 1986, two days before her 87th birthday, to a well deserved reward with her Heavenly Father.

Born in 1899, she was the oldest of the five children of Setrak and Zenoohi Adourian who had both been educated as teachers in Talas. The family came to Philadelphia in 1910, where their father established a Sunday School for the newly arriving Armenians.

The work of furthering God's Kingdom on earth was an important part of Nvart's life. She taught Sunday School in the Philadelphia church, supporting the work her father had organized, and later taught in a Presbyterian church when she married.

Family devotional hour was a must each evening with Bible reading, discussion and prayers.

In 1944, the family moved to Pasadena and became active in the Cilicia church where she served as the president of the Ladies Aid for several years. When she became house-bound because of her arthritis, she held weekly Bible study meetings at her home. Those who came to visit and cheer her up were treated to a time of encouragement and assurance that God was with them. She thought of others less fortunate and was willing to do more than just her share. She did not believe in tithing for she believed that was not enough! She followed the example of the widow and her mite. Much of her time and talents were spent in furthering the work of the Armenian Missionary Association of

America, both as a representative and as a faithful and generous member of the Association, writing and talking to relatives and friends throughout the U.S. about supporting the AMAA "because we have so much, we must share with others." She did not have much of this world's goods and riches, but gave of her love, care and time.

After God, her family occupied her time. She married Calvin in 1917 and had two daughters, Marguerite and Evelyn. Her days were occupied by helping her husband in their jewelry store and the evenings with her daughters and their lessons. She put aside money for their college education at a time during the Depression when people could only afford the necessities. She instilled the love of learning in them, and later, in her six grandchildren who are all college graduates.

Keeping family ties was important so she shared letters and pictures with her children and grandchildren. Each one knew of her love for them and felt secure in it. She developed a pride in them as Christians and Armenians.

She had a desire to help relatives come to this country to take advantage of the opportunities here; she shared her home and substance to make it possible. There are many who can attest to the changes she made in their lives as the following testimony given by Dr. Mihran Agbajian at her funeral services indicate: "I knew that uncle Calvin was my father's first cousin—As to Aunt Nvart, I didn't know what to expect. Little did I know that I owed primarily to her the fact that I was even able to come to the U.S." She had been suffering for twenty years with rheumatoid arthritis, but through all her pain, she never complained. She always took it to the Lord and praised Him for His goodness till the end of her earthly existence.

"I hope you understand why I smile when I cry I know Jesus is holding her hand I will miss that twinkle in her eye Her love for God and children who cry Life does not end in this temporal land."

These words from a poem dedicated to Nvart by her son-in-law, D.E. Beauchamp, express the feelings of not only the family of Mrs. Nvart Janbazian, but also the sentiments of all those who knew and loved her.

MARTIN BEDROSIAN

Martin Bedrosian was born on November 29, 1903, in Bitlis, Armenia. Martin's father, Ben, came to the United States to work and prepare a place for his family. Martin was



Mr. Martin Bedrosian

seven years old when he and his mother and three sisters joined his father. They settled in Kingsburg, CA, where his father was engaged in farming.

On January 31, 1931, he married Kohar Gazarian of Los Angeles. They were married in the Kingsburg Armenian Presbyterian Church. They settled in the Reedley area for one year before moving to their Dinuba home where they have lived for 54 years.

Martin was a Life Member of AMAA. He was involved in fund raising and served on committees to benefit Armenian children overseas. He believed in the AMAA and until his final days he supported the work of the Association. For this reason, his family established a fund with the AMAA in honor of his memory.

Martin is survived by his wife, Jewell; three daughters, Lesta Ekizian and Joyce Bedrosian, both of Dinuba and Karen Bedrosian of Oakland; two brothers, Ray of Kingsburg and Kaye of Fresno; a sister, Gladys Dosdorian of San Francisco; and four grandchildren.

ANGEL MARTAYAN KASSABIAN

Born on March 9, 1911 in Kayseri, Angel Martayan Kassabian and her family were destined to survive the massacres of 1915 by the help of friends who gave them protection after their first night of deportation. Angel was the youngest of four children born to Boghos and Gulu Martayan, which included her brother Agam and sisters Mayreni Hamalian and Sara Chakmakjian.

At war's end in 1918, the family was able



Mrs. Angel Martayan Kassabian

to travel to Adana and eventually out of Turkey. In 1920, the Martayans came to the United States and settled in New York where they endured the hardy life of immigrants in tenement houses. In 1928, the family moved to Philadelphia where Angel worked in her brother's butcher shop as she completed high school and planned to go to college to become a librarian. Her plans were interrupted however when she met Mihran Kassabian in church and got married in 1932. Mihran Kassabian had a shoe repair business, and in 1938 Angel began to work as a seamstress in her husband's shop. In 1943, Angel and Mihran moved to Los Angeles where they labored together for two decades at Major Cleaners. The result of their hard work and perseverance was the building of a successful business. Meanwhile, their home had become a frequent meeting place for church and community organizations and visitors. The Kassabians extended a welcome mat in the best Christian tradition of hospitality and became "Good Samaritans" to many grateful people.

Angel and Mihran were a mainstay of the Masis Church, in the spiritual context of which they educated their two children. Angel took great pride in her family—her late husband Mihran; her daughter, Rosemary, and husband, Norayr; her son, John, and wife, Mary; and particularly her grandchildren Paulette, Mark, John and Paul. For them, and for all who knew her, Angel Kassabian left a shining example of Christian charity, strength of character, honesty and perseverance.

JOSEPH SAHAKIAN

Mr. Joseph Sahakian of San Antonio, Texas, who died on Saturday, February 22, 1986 at the age of 92, was born in Sis, Armenia. He arrived in the U.S. in 1910 and served his newly-adopted country in World War I immediately after which he became a naturalized citizen. He continued serving his country as a hard working laborer asking for



Mr. Joseph Sahakian

nothing but the opportunity to earn a living and be a responsible citizen.

Mr. Sahakian was a member of the Travis Park United Methodist Church for over 50 years and a close friend of Mr. Richard Aijian whom he helped in his rug business as a free lance rug repairman.

His survivors include two sisters, Zabel Tule-nian of Oakland, CA, and Parantzem Tule-nian of Encino, CA, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

GEORGE A. AJOOTIAN

George A. Ajootian, 75, of Country Parkway, RI, died at his home on Sunday, February 23, 1986. He was the husband of Violet (Tarpinian) Ajootian.

Born in Providence, he was a son of the late Avedis and Ozketel (Noorigian) Ajootian.

Mr. Ajootian had attended the former Rhode Island State College, now the University of Rhode Island. He earned a juris doctorate in 1933 at Boston University School of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the Law Review. During World War II he was a lieutenant commander in the Navy.

Besides his wife, he leaves four sons: Charles J. Ajootian of Smithfield, James P. Ajootian of Scituate, Thomas G. Ajootian of Ashland, Ore., and Edward A. Ajootian of Cranston; a daughter, Joyce A. Ajootian; a brother, John Ajootian, both of North Providence; three sisters, Mary and Esther Ajootian, both of Cranston, Margaret Layshock of Moraga, CA, and three grandchildren.

- The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.
- *MIKAELIAN, Edna
Sarasota, FL
 - *TUFENKJIAN, Haig
Boston, MA
 - *BAGDASARIAN, George
Worcester, MA
 - *HERR, Clara S.
Bell Harbor, NY
 - *BEZJIAN, Alex
N. Hollywood, CA
 - *TERZIAN, Nell
Castro Valley, CA
 - *SHIDAN, Hrand
Del Rey, CA
 - *KHESHDOIAN, Sarah
San Diego, CA 07/03/85
 - *BOGHOSIAN, Aram
Forest Hills, NY 11/07/85
 - *YOUGHIAN, George
Bradford, MA 01/10/86
 - *KARAKOOSH, Sophie
Piscataway, NJ 02/18/86
 - *ORCHANIAN, Peter
Waltham, MA 02/19/86
 - *ATTARIAN, George
Los Angeles, CA 02/25/86
 - *MISSIRLIAN, Ruth
Royal Oak, MI 02/27/86
 - *GULESIAN, Alice
Lynn, MA 02/27/86
 - *KALAJIAN, Soultan
Detroit, MI 03/06/86
 - *CONSTANTIAN, Diana
Springfield, NJ 03/07/86
 - *KOCHAKIAN, Rose
Haverhill, MA 03/09/86
 - *KAZARIAN, Sarah
Whitinsville, MA 03/25/86
 - *MARGOSIAN, Arshalous
Woodcliff, NJ 04/10/86
 - *JENANYAN, Charles
Fresno, CA 04/13/86
 - *BARDIZIAN, Solomon
Westland, MI 04/14/86
 - *JULIAN, Marvin
Boston, MA 04/16/86
 - *TASHJIE, Raymond
Montebello, CA 04/22/86
 - *KAZARIAN, Ashken
CA 04/22/86
 - *GOSTANIAN, Esther
Somerville, MA 04/26/86
 - *TOVMASSIAN, Rev. Edward
Whittier, CA 04/26/86
 - *FRANKIAN, Martin
Fresno, CA 05/07/86
 - *TEAGER, Arthur
Somerset, NJ 05/22/86
 - *TEAGER, Robert
Somerset, NJ 05/22/86

*Memorials were designated for AMAA.
**Bequest ass



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